

NOTES ON SOME MOTHS OF THE FAMILY SATURNIIDAE  
(Lepidoptera)

BY J. W. TILDEN  
*Santa Cruz, California*

While collecting in the Pozo Mountains in the general region of La Panza, San Luis Obispo County, on March 23, 1940, George Mansfield and the author took three male specimens of a *Calosaturnia* sp.

This area is a typical chaparral association of *Ceanothus*, *Arctostaphylos*, *Cercocarpus*, *Adenostoma*, *Photinia*, *Dendromecon*, with *Quercus* spp. in the canyons. The specimens were taken flying in typical undulating fashion over the chaparral on the west side of the divide.

I have been informed by Mr. J. W. Johnson (personal communication) that there exist to his knowledge no previous records of this genus from San Luis Obispo County. Inasmuch as this area is outside of the habitats of his two recently described species of *Calosaturnia*, *C. albofasciatus* Johnson and *C. meridionalis* Johnson, it appears probable that the specimens from the Pozo Mountains are referable to *Calosaturnia mendocino* (Behrens), the type species of the genus, thus extending the already wide known range of the species.

In July, 1941, six larvae of *C. mendocino* were taken in the Santa Cruz Mountains. All were of the pink or orange color phase, none being of the dark or green phase. Of these, three pupated in typical saturniid cocoons in a few days. Two others succumbed to *Apanteles* parasites, and a sixth disintegrated, possibly from a bacterial disease. Of the three pupae, one emerged in an injured condition on January 17, 1942. About the same time, a second pupa produced a tachinid. The third pupa did not develop either adult or parasite. The food plant of the larvae taken was *Arbutus menziesii* Pursh. Several of our party complained of the stinging setae of these larvae, and I personally discovered that the setae are indeed quite painful, however, the effect does not last long.

In late July, 1941, a few days after the *mendocino* larvae were taken, over 50 larvae of *Pseudohazis eglanterina* were obtained from *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus* Esch. These larvae were almost ma-

ture when taken, and after feeding for from one to eight days, either succumbed to parasites or attempted to pupate. Thirty-one died from *Apanteles* parasites. Others formed cells even when covered with *Apanteles* cocoons, but failed to pupate. Only six pupae formed from the total number, and of these six, five emerged tachinids during the winter. Only a single adult was obtained from more than fifty larvae. I do not believe this to be an extreme case of parasitism. An almost similar result was obtained from larvae of *Papilio philenor hirsuta* Skin., in 1938, from Putah Canyon, Yolo County, California. Where larvae are taken nearly full grown, parasitism is far more marked than in larvae taken in the early instars.

While collecting in the White Mountains of California, near Benton Station, Mono County, C. W. Bowles and the author took a large number of saturniid larvae on *Salix* sp., along a small watercourse. In view of the location and the food plant, these are circumstantially considered to be the larvae of *Platysamia gloveri* Stkr. Attempts to rear these larvae resulted in complete failure, all specimens falling victims to *Apanteles* previous to pupation.

I have been informed by Mr. J. W. Johnson that this is the first record of larvae of this species from a California locality, although the adults have been taken within the state on several occasions. Mr. Johnson agreed that the larvae were most likely to be *gloveri*, and suggested the inclusion of their occurrence, in these notes. It seems logical that *gloveri* should include in its range that part of California which falls within the Great Basin region.

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